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(54) Low resistance top emitting ridge VCSEL and method of fabrication

(57) A high efficiency vertical cavity surface emitting laser (30) including first and second mirror stacks (31, 37) with an active region (32) sandwiched therebetween having an optical mode. The second mirror stack (37) is formed into a mesa with exposed end surface and having outer sidewalls and a diametric size substantially greater than the optical mode. A portion (38) of the second mirror stack (37) adjacent the active region (32) has a reduced electrical conductance so as to channel operating current from the second mirror stack (37) into the optical mode of the active region (32).

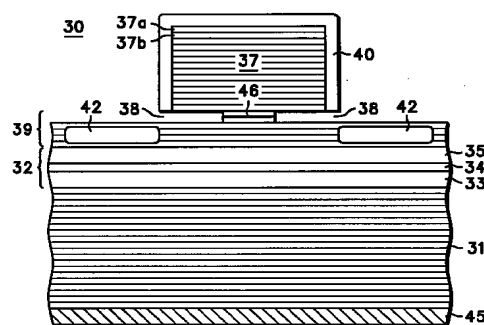


FIG. 2

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